



MEDIA STATEMENT

Kwena Dam keeps rising and goes over 90%

03 March 2021

The Kwena Dam, which is most crucial for water supply to the downstream areas which include the City of Mbombela continued its rise over the week and now stands above 90% after starting the year just under 30%. According to the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) weekly state of reservoirs report of 01 March 2021, the Kwena Dam recorded a 2% improvement from the report of last Thursday, 25 February 2021 of 88.9% to 90.9% as recorded on Monday, 01 March 2021.

This is in line with continued improvements in water levels in most dams in the Lowveld and Ehlanzeni District, with the exception of Primkop and Witklip dams which recorded slight declines from 100.9% to 100.5% and 100.5% to 100.4% respectively.

Continuing to improve on water levels, Buffelskloof Dam increased from 100.7% to 100.8%, Blyderivierpoort from 101.0 to 101.3, Inyaka from 81.0% to 81.5%, Klipkopjes from 99.0% to 100.5%, Longmere from 91.0% to 98.6% and Ohrigstad from 72.0% to 72.5%.

Driekoppies and Da Gama dams remained unchanged at 100.0% and 100.4% respectively.

The Lomati Dam which caters for Barberton and surroundings and increase from the 68.5% recorded on 23 February 2021 to 73.3% as recorded on Monday, 01 March 2021.

In contrast to the improving dam levels, river flows are declining. According to measurements at the gauging stations, the flow of Mlumati at Lomati decreased from 19.8 m³/s, Mlumati at Sandbult decreased from 78 m³/s to 24.3 m³/s, Tonga dropped from 324 m³/s to 155 m³/s, Montrose from 8.5 m³/s to 3.1 m³/s, Crocodile at Weltevrede from 47 m³/s to 39.4 m³/s, Crocodile at Riverside from 150.4 m³/s to 104.4 m³/s, Komatipoort from 251 m³/s to 217 m³/s. Only the Sand at Exeter improved from 5.8 m³/s to 12.6 m³/s.

The contrasting situation in our dams and rivers is a call to each and every one of us to use the available water wisely, efficiently and in a more conservative manner as we approach the dry winter season.





water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



As we celebrate March as both the Human Rights and National Water Month, DWS encourages all members of society to play an active role in ensuring that every person enjoys the basic human right of access to water by preventing the wastage of the special resource as every drop counts in a water scarce country like South Africa.

End

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